



# Sermon Notes — Pastor Thomas Keys, SRMBC

The Hope Of Easter II — Saved To Be Sent Scriptures: Luke 10:1 -2; 17 - 20

## INTRODUCTION

James Bond (Agent 007) is a fictional British Secret Service agent created in 1953 by writer Ian Fleming. This story has been made into a long-running successful movie series with 007 being played by several different actors (The only real James Bond IMHO is Sean Connery).

While the story of James Bond is intriguing, his life and missions are not real. However, as believers, disciples, and followers of Jesus Christ, we have a real mission. We are **Agents For Christ**. We have been saved to be sent out on the mission to tell the world about the Gospel.

## SERMON POINTS

We are continuing our sermon Series – The Hope of Easter – from selected Scripture in The Gospel of Luke – the Gentile Physician who wanted to write an orderly account of Jesus life and ministry for his friend Theophilus.

In Luke Chapter 10, Jesus is sending another group of 70 people, 2 by 2, to every city that Jesus would eventually come to with explicit instructions: to heal the sick, to overcome the devil and his forces, and to preach the Gospel/Kingdom of God. What I want to do in this message – is to look at how Jesus sent the 70 saved folks out with a **Particular Objective** to Be **Powerfully Effective**, and with a **Proper Perspective** so we can rejoice in the Hope of Easter and help others bound by sin and the devil to saved and experience this Hope as well.

### I. Sent With A Particular Objective (vv. 1 – 2)

- ♦ **A Commissioned Objective** - Note that Jesus – appointed the 70 to go for Him. It seems that there are lot of church leaders today who are obsessed with titles. But you need to know that everyone, regardless of your past, the sins you've committed has been personally and permanently appointed and chosen by Jesus – to be a messenger and to represent Him. And this calling and gifting is without repentance. In other words, Jesus still wants to use you.

- ♦ **A Communicated Objective** – Jesus sent them out with explicit instructions. What is implied here is that Jesus gave commands to go and the people were close enough and engaged enough to hear the commands to do something. Hearing the Word burns in your heart and we experience the mercy and love of Jesus that moves to do something. To obey Him; To love Him; serve Him; come to church; To sing His praises. To love and forgive your family and share the Gospel. Romans says faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word. But James also says the faith without works is dead. What is the Lord commissioning you to do?
- ♦ **A Cooperated Objective** – We also see how Lord sends out the 70, 2 by 2, to go everywhere to do the mission. What I see in these verses and what has been impressed on me in the last few days, is the value and the importance of Relationships. Church, we need each other – God calls us individually – but also to be in relationship and partnership with one another. (Like Starsky and Hutch, Mary, Mary, Lebron and AD, Mac and Cheese, PB&J...) We as a church have to be willing and open to God sending others to join us in this ministry and work together.

### II. Sent To Be Powerfully Effective (vv. 17 – 19)

- ♦ **Powerfully Effective Praise** – I love how the 70 came back with joy. Seeing people healed. The Gospel preached – Lives were changed, burdens were lifted, and the disciples that Jesus sent out were supernaturally provided for. And not only that, even the devils and demons were subject to them. And when we gather together after we've been obedient to call and commission, we ought to be able to share the testimony with one another of the Great things the Lord has done.
- ♦ **Powerfully Effective Precedent** – Jesus rejoices in their obedience. Beloved we can't get the Lord to love us anymore than He already does. But we can always please Him more. I love how Jesus rejoices in the successful mission he sent them on. And lets them know that He saw Satan fell from heaven like lightning. What I mean here is that no matter how much Satan roams about and roars – we need not fear him – because he is already defeated (Even he knows he's defeated) So as we are sent – we face a battle that is already won!

- ◆ **Powerfully Effective Possibilities** – Jesus also continues to encourage His disciples for their continued missions they would be sent on by letting them know that He has given each one of them – power. Jesus proclaims and I would even say, reminds them that they have been given power to tread on snakes and scorpions and over all power of the enemy. That doesn't mean we have protection from doing stupid stuff (handling snakes, drinking poison, not paying bills or taking your medicine) but to go where we are sent – doing what we are commissioned to do – we have power in the Word, and the Spirit of God to see the Lord do the impossible.

### III. Sent With A Proper Perspective (v. 20)

- ◆ **Spiritual Perspective** – Jesus, after praising God for the successful mission, redirects the priority of their rejoicing in a more spiritual perspective. This mission that we are sent on is a spiritual one. And in order to win and to complete it takes Spiritual resources. Jesus says that we must always remember that we need to tap into His power through prayer, studying His Word, Worshipping and serving with other believers in the Church. Too many of us are attempting to do the Lord's work while still having a worldly mindset. The weapons of our warfare are not carnal or natural - but are spiritual and mighty through God.
- ◆ **Serious Perspective** – One of the things that may be hindering the mission of the Church – and getting people motivated to be sent out is that we don't always take this Evangelism thing seriously. Not to be a downer, but God is counting on us – on you and for me to share the Gospel with as many people as possible - as quickly as we can. Beloved, the mission to share the Gospel is literally life or death. Let us be serious and give our all on the mission to seek and save the Lost.
- ◆ **Salvation Perspective** – Jesus reminds the 70 that although you were successful with God's power over demonic forces – your greatest rejoicing should be reserved for the knowledge that we are saved, and our Names are in the Lamb's book of Life. In other words, we should never rejoice in what we do for the Lord – more than rejoicing in what the Lord has done for us. And since we are saved, we should be so thankful, that we should be willing to do whatever it takes to tell everybody (starting with our family and neighbors) about the Jesus who saves and that He is the only way Truth and the Life.

Preachers tell a story to illustrate how Christ's triumph presently benefits our lives: Imagine a city under siege. The enemy that surrounds the city will not let anyone, or anything leave. Supplies are running low, and the citizens are fearful. But in the dark of the night, a spy sneaks through the enemy lines. He has rushed to the city to tell the people that in another place the main enemy force has been defeated; the leaders have already surrendered.

The people do not need to be afraid. It is only a matter of time until the besieging troops receive the news and lay down their weapons. Similarly, we may seem now to be surrounded by the forces of evil – disease, injustice, oppression, death.

But the enemy has actually already been defeated at Calvary. And Jesus has sent us and commissioned us go tell it to every creature every person about Jesus:

- The Lord Jesus who came from heaven – lived a righteous life for us.
- The Jesus who bled and died for us.
- And who on the 3rd day He Rose from the grave for us.
- And He continues to love and provide for us - And One Glorious day He is coming back for us!!!

Jesus was sent to save, and He is sending us – so let us answer the call and lift Him up.

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- ◆ Have you heard the Call of Jesus to evangelize the lost? If so, how are you responding?
- ◆ What are some of the hindrances you've faced in the work of the Lord? How did you overcome them?
- ◆ Jesus said to His disciples that He had given them power over Satan's devices. What are some things He has given us that we can use for our mission for Christ?
- ◆ How does keeping our salvation and eternal life as the center of our rejoicing keep our mission to evangelize in the proper perspective?